

REMARKS

Claims 4, 8 and 9 are pending in the application, with each of these claims being independent. Each of claims 4, 8, and 9 have been amended by virtue of this amendment, as discussed in more detail below. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-3, 5-7, and 10-15 have been cancelled by virtue of this amendment, and Applicant retains the right to pursue these claims in this or continuing applications.

Claims 1, 2, 3, 5-7, and 10-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Koyama et al. This rejection is obviated by the cancellation of claims 1-3, 5-7, and 10-15.

Claims 4, 8, and 9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. By virtue of this amendment, claims 4, 8, and 9 have been re-written in independent form, including all of the limitations of their respective base claims. Applicant has also made minor changes to the language incorporated from former claims 1, 2, and 3. In particular, the phrase, "digital formal data" has been changed to "digital data," and the phrase "the bit data" from cancelled claim 2 has been incorporated into claim 8 simply as "bit data."

Based on the above, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is hereby requested in the Examiner's next official communication.

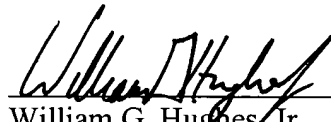
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Enclosed is a \$180 check for the information disclosure statement fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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